

Message from the Chair

This year marks the 25th Anniversary of the Intellectual Property Law Section and the 10th anniversary of my membership in the Section. When I first joined the Section in 2008, I'd been a member of several local and national bar associations as well as practice-related associations. In some of these other associations I was avidly engaged on committees, and in others my involvement consisted primarily of paying annual dues. What I found in the IP Section, however, was more than just a professional association. This has been true consistently since Rory Radding (still an active Executive Committee member and past Chair of the Section) started the Section in 1998, through the present. It's what hooked me from the beginning and what has led me to revere the role that the Section plays for me and others.



The Section is a community of professionals that spans the spectrum of experience, from students to newly admitted attorneys to partners and general counsels, as well as of practice areas so varied that occasionally it's hard to believe that we all fit within the "IP" umbrella. Yet regardless of these differences, the sense of interest, commitment, loyalty, and care that's exhibited by the Section community is profound. Whether it's planning a program, attending an event, or networking with members looking to change their professional trajectory, members of the IP Section are always there. The dedication, generosity, and kindness of our members are the essence of the Section. Regardless of whether a member attends events regularly or only participates on an ad hoc basis, the Section welcomes everyone equally, offering a professional—and personal—community second to none.

The Section's program offerings this past quarter aptly reflect this diverse yet inclusive community. Our Annual Meeting in January was another astounding success. Program Chair (and past Section Chair) Michael Chakan-sky delivered an excellent day of thoughtful discussion, followed by our Section's first ever collaborative cocktail reception with the Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Section. The panel topics were unique and intriguing, ranging from corporate social responsibility to web analytics; IP issues raised by documentaries and biopics to an annual review of copyright litigation; and a roundtable of past Section Chairs sharing their thoughts on the state of IP law and our profession. I had the privilege of meeting members from around the state and around the country—even a member who regularly attends the Annual

Meeting from Kentucky! If you made it, hopefully you enjoyed the day as much as I did. If not, next year's Annual Meeting will be a week earlier than usual, on Tuesday, January 15, 2019. Mark your calendars!

In February, Diversity Co-Chair Deborah Robinson and I invited health coach Tina Corrado (www.tinacorrado.com) and productivity expert Paul Burton (www.quietspacing.com) to present at a program entitled "Slowing Down, Getting Ahead: Living Mindfully, Working Efficiently and Increasing Satisfaction," graciously hosted at the offices of HBO. The evening offered practical tips on improving our health, increasing our efficiency, and encouraging our greater satisfaction. A reception following the program provided a great opportunity for attendees to meet, mingle, and share secrets for achieving success.

With such fantastic offerings behind us, we're fortunate in what we still have to look forward to! On Tuesday, May 1 from 8:30 to 11:00 am, the Section will join with the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Law Section to present a program entitled "Pharmaceutical Brand Names: Navigating the PTO/FDA Rapids" at the offices of Fross Zelnick. Additionally, the 16th Annual "Women in IP" program, a quintessential community-building event, will be held on Wednesday, June 6 from 5:00 to 8:00 pm at the New York City offices of Davis Wright Tremaine, led once again by the formidable Joyce Creidy.

Speaking of community, I encourage everyone to check out the Section's Community, an internet-based private online professional platform operated on our Section's behalf by the NYSBA (<http://communities.nysba.org/home>). The Community provides a platform in which IP Section members can pose questions, share experiences, and benefit from our collective knowledge. With such a supportive real-life IP Section community, building a similar Community online seems a natural extension. The more we all participate, the more robust the Community will be!

Finally, no discussion of IP Section community would be complete without acknowledging the herculean efforts of Jonathan Bloom, editor-in-chief of this publication. Jonathan works tirelessly to develop article ideas, increase our members' profiles, and manage the process of getting everything into print. Jonathan operates entirely behind the scenes (or pages, in this case). His contributions to our community are known by few but enjoyed and appreciated by the Section as a whole.

It has been an honor to be a part of this Section and to serve as Chair. We have an amazing community. Thanks to all who are a part of it!

Erica D. Klein